



Remarks

The allowance of claims 1-11 is noted with appreciation. Claims 12, 13, 15 and 16 remain rejected, and claims 14 and 17-20 have been objected to.

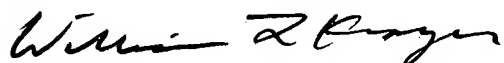
Respecting claims 12, 15, and 16, the examiner describes Figure 10 of Krayner (US Patent 5,152,592) as disclosing three substantially identical lobes 106 on its turntable. The patent's description of Figure 10, however, at lines 60 and 64 of column 7, describes items 106 as points, and indeed they clearly appear to be points in the drawing. The examiner is invited to review Figure 1 of the present application, where intangible points K may be seen to be geometrically similar to points 106 in Figure 10 of the '592 patent. Intangible points K follow a path on intangible arcs E which are similar to cam surfaces 104 in Figure 10 of the '592 patent. In the present application, applicant has extended, and convexly rounded off, the extremities of the triangular gerotor shape, and constructed a gerotor guide with concavely rounded corners (corner recesses 13 – page 10, lines 20, 21) commensurately removed or expanded from points L on arcs E, to contain it. This is a leap forward in the art, as it enables smooth rotation with little or no likelihood of binding. Although it is not essential that the lobe be a circular arc, it will be seen from the description of Figure 1, at page 10, line 9 that the illustrated version of the invention uses circular arcs for the lobes 12 and that the radii of the arcs originate at points K. The gerotor guide is designed accordingly.

A lobe is rounded and a point is sharp. Thus they are quite different, in fact opposites. Applicant's small desk dictionary defines a lobe as "a rounded part or projection" and a point is defined as "a tapered or sharp end." Applicant's larger dictionary defines lobe as "a rounded projection" and a point as "a sharp or tapered end." Applicant submits that these are the ordinary and customary meanings, and that points and lobes are opposites. Calling patent '592's points lobes, as examiner has done, is totally inconsistent with legal precedent on the use of ordinary and customary meanings for words in claims.

Applicant has rewritten claim 12 to include the salient limitation of claim 15, namely the three substantially identical lobes on the gerotor, and accordingly claim 15 has been canceled. No combination of the prior art shows the limitations of claim 12 as rewritten, nor is the invention of the newly amended claim 12 obvious from any such combination. There is no motivation apparent in Kraye or Gerkey to combine them, or in their combined disclosures if somehow they are combined, and in any event the combination does not add up to the invention recited in newly amended claim 12, nor is the invention obvious from the combination. In particular, for example, there are no lobes in either Kraye or Gerkey and there is nothing in their specifications to suggest using lobes. The examiner's separate paragraph on claims 12 and 13, citing Gerkey et al for their planar bearing surface, does not address the combination in the newly amended claim 12, now including lobes. There are no lobes in either Gerkey or Kraye, and claim 12 is clearly patentable over a combination of them.

Re the claims objected to, claim 14 has not been rewritten in view of the amendment incorporating into claim 12 the lobe limitation from claim 15. As claims 17-20 are also dependent on claim 12, they, too, are patentable.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William L. Kraye".

William L. Kraye
(Reg'n 19542)